

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1                   1.       (Currently amended) A holding device for holding a solid in a tube,  
2 comprising:  
3                   a filter having an elastically deformable part that is coupled to a disk such that the  
4 deformable part is transverse to the disc and wherein the disc and the deformable part are a  
5 single-piece; and  
6                   a spring pressing the elastically deformable part of said filter against the walls of  
7 the tube.
- 1                   2.       (Previously presented) A holding device according to claim 1,  
2 characterized in that the disc has transverse apertures.
- 1                   3.       (Previously presented) A holding device according to claim 1,  
2 characterized in that the part is in the form of a tube with a slit over part of its length.
- 1                   4.       (Currently amended) A holding device according to claim 1,  
2 characterized in that the part ~~comprises~~ includes two ~~tabs~~ slits.
- 1                   5.       (Previously presented) A test kit comprising:  
2 a tube;  
3 two holding devices according to claim 1; and  
4 a reactant between the ends of the holding devices of claim 1.
- 1                   6.       (Previously presented) The test kit according to claim 5, characterized in  
2 that the tube is made of glass.

1                   7.       (Previously presented) The test kit according to claim 5, characterized in  
2       that the reactant is in the form of granules.

1                   8.       (Previously presented) The test kit according to claim 7, characterized in  
2       that the discs have transverse apertures smaller than the size of the granules.

1                   9.       (Previously presented) The test kit according to claim 5, characterized in  
2       that a cap closes off the tube at each of its ends.

1                   10.      (Previously presented) The test kit according to claim 5, characterized in  
2       that the diameter of the ends is at most equal to the inside diameter of the tube.

1                   11.      (Previously presented) A method of assembling a test kit according to  
2       claim 5, comprising the steps of:  
3                   introducing the holding device of claim 1 into a tube;  
4                   introducing a reactant into the tube; and  
5                   introducing a second holding device into the tube.

1                   12.      (Previously presented) A method according to claim 11, characterized in  
2       that it furthermore includes the step of closing off the tube with a cap at each of its ends.

1                   13.      (Previously presented) A test kit comprising:  
2                   a tube;  
3                   two holding devices that each comprise a filter having an elastically deformable  
4       part transverse to a disc, and a spring pressing the elastically deformable part against the walls of  
5       the tube; and  
6                   a reactant between the ends of the holding devices

1                   14.      (Previously presented) A method of assembling a test kit, comprising the  
2       steps of:  
3                   providing a first holding device comprising a filter having an elastically

- 4 deformable part transverse to a disc, and a spring pressing the elastically deformable part against  
5 the walls of the tube;
- 6 introducing the first holding device into a tube;
- 7 introducing a reactant into the tube; and
- 8 introducing a second holding device into the tube.